CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED
SECURITY INFORMATION
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION FROM
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT
CD NO.

STAT

COUNTRY	USSR	DATE OF INFORMATION	1940 - 1952
SUBJECT	Economic - Construction materials, asbestos-cement pipe		
HOW PUBLISHED	Semiweekly newspaper	DATE DIST.	15 Aug 1952
WHERE PUBLISHED	Moscow	NO. OF PAGES	2
DATE PUBLISHED	18 Jun 1952		
LANGUAGE	Russian	SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.	

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Promyshlennost' Stroitel'nykh Materialov.

MEASURES TO INCREASE OUTPUT OF ASBESTOS PIPE IN USSR

Asbestos-cement pipe, which has a number of technical and economic advantages over metal pipe, has been used widely in home and industrial as well as in farm construction. It is several times cheaper and lighter than cast iron, is not subject to the corrosive effect of the action of ground water, and does not diminish in size internally due to the formation of deposits, as is the case with metal pipe.

The great need for pipe to be used in the expanding irrigation systems of the USSR has resulted in a demand for asbestos pipe 16 times greater in 1950 than in 1941.

Despite the fact that the volume of asbestos-pipe production in 1952 is five times greater than in 1940, agricultural requirements have not yet been satisfied. In connection with this, there has been wide production of other types of metal pipe substitutes (ceramic, glass, reinforced concrete) concurrent with the use of products of the asbestos-cement industry throughout the USSR economy.

The enterprises of "Glavshifer" (Main Administration of the Slate Industry) now manufacture two types of pipe: high-pressure, with an effective pressure of 8-10 atmospheres, and nonpressure. No low-pressure pipes above 5 atmospheres are produced, although standards for their manufacture have been established. As a result, agriculture is supplied only with high-pressure pipes, which are used in large quantity in piping systems where the working pressure does not exceed 5 atmospheres.

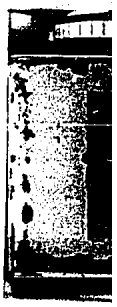
According to information from the Ministry of Agriculture and the Institute of Hydraulic Engineering and Land Improvement, almost 70 percent of the pipe required for irrigation systems and agricultural water supply consists of 5-atmosphere piping. This fact has great significance since the production of low-pressure pipe, which has a thinner wall than the high-pressure variety, requires 20-30 percent less asbestos-cement bulk. For example, 21.4 tons of asbestos-cement are required for the manufacture of one linear kilometer of pipe with a diameter of 200 millimeters and a pressure of 8-10 atmospheres,

CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED

STATE	X	NAVY	X	NSRB		DISTRIBUTION					
ARMY	X	AIR	X	FBI							

Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2011/08/19 : CIA-RDP80-00809A000700070586-3

STAT



while for the same quantity of 5-atmospheric piping only 17.6 tons are required. This means that in the manufacture of low-pressure pipe, an equal quantity of asbestos-cement makes possible a 20-percent increase in output, in terms of linear kilometers.

The interests of the state urgently require organization of the production of low-pressure pipe. This requires no additional equipment, nor does it require any change in technological processes. To increase the output of the item, and to add to the variety, it will be necessary to increase the number of shaping pistons available in construction-materials plants. This leaves two alternatives: It would be necessary either to use asbestos-cement pistons, which have been used successfully for the production of high-pressure pipe, or to adapt the old steel pistons, which are available at the plants of "Glavshifer" and which on the basis of the recently introduced standards are at present ineffective.

There is still one other instance where organization of the production of low-pressure pipe would be beneficial. The effectiveness of asbestos pipe, according to the quantity of metal which it replaces, depends on its diameter, since the thickness of the walls grows significantly with increasing diameter. For example: One linear meter of asbestos-cement pipe with a diameter of 150 millimeters is 2.6 times lighter than cast iron, but when it has a diameter of 600 millimeters, it is only 1.4 times lighter. This means that the effectiveness of asbestos-cement pipe products is inversely proportional to an increase of their diameter.

It should be noted that shortcomings exist in the system of planning for the production of asbestos pipe in that the plan only calls for the production of a certain number of kilometers without a specification of type. The fact that indexes of pressure and diameter are lacking in the annual plans means that the slate industry does not have adequate instructions for the type of production necessary for the national economy and uses up asbestos-cement irrationally.

The rapid organization of the production of low-pressure asbestos pipe, and better regulated planning will permit the annual conservation of large quantities of asbestos and cement and make it possible effectively to increase the output of pipe for the various branches of the national economy.

- E N D -